



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
08/818,884	03/17/1997	SHUNPEI YAMAZAKI	0756-1653	1108

22204 7590 01/17/2002

NIXON PEABODY, LLP
8180 GREENSBORO DRIVE
SUITE 800
MCLEAN, VA 22102

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, DUNG T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2871

DATE MAILED: 01/17/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/818,884

Applicant(s)

Yamazaki et al.

Examiner

Dung Nguyen

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspond nc address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jul 5, 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 9, 10, 17-24, 26, 27, and 30-55 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 9, 10, 17-24, 26, 27, and 30-55 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 49-50 20) ☐ Other:

• Art Unit: 2871

Response to Arguments

Applicant's response dated 07/05/2001 has been received and entered.

Applicant's arguments 07/05/2001 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed 10/24/2000 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each foreign patent; each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

3. Claims 7, 9-10, 17-19, 27, 30, 51-52 and 54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Takemura, US Patent No. 5,581,092 as stated in the previous action.

Applicants contend that Takemura fails to teach a semiconductor integrated circuit (IC) chip since Takemura discloses a thin film semiconductor IC (Applicant's response, pp 2). The

Art Unit: 2871

Examiner is not convinced by this argument since the same is true of the Takemura's IC (see col. 14, lines 56-57).

Applicants also contend that the previous office action fails to address a limitation of "at least one lightly doped drain". (Applicant's response, pp 3) Accordingly, the Examiner respectfully invited the Applicant to review figure 1A which disclose a TFT having "at least one lightly doped drain" (e.g, 4, 6).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103 ✕

4. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

5. Claims 20, 45-46 and 55 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takemura, US Patent No. 5,581,092, as stated in the previous office action.

Those above claims depend, either directly or indirectly, from claims 7 and 17, respectively. Accordingly, the rejection of those claims stand.

6. Claims 1-7, 9-10, 17-24, 26-27 and 30-55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's submitted prior art Takemura, US Patent No. 5,581,092, in view of Applicant's submitted prior art Sawatsubashi '301 5148301

Takemura discloses the claimed invention as described above except for an extended portion on one of the insulating glass substrates for the IC to be formed thereon while the driving circuit is covered by the counter substrate. Sawatsubashi does disclose the driving circuit (112,

Art Unit: 2871

113) which is covered by the counter substrate (col. 6, ln. 30+) and an extended portion on TFT substrate (101) beyond one side edge of the counter substrate (102) for forming the IC (i.e., 115)(see Fig. 8). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide an extended portion to Takemura's substrate and to cover driving circuit as shown in the Sawatsubashi's reference in order to minimize a display device (Sawatsubashi, col. 3, ln. 10).

Regarding claim 36, Applicants request an evidence to provide the obviousness of the limitation of "a bottom gate" and "a top gate". Accordingly, the Examiner provides herewith the reference as evidence to support the Office's position and § 103 rejection that the use of "a bottom gate" or "a top gate" for TFTs is well known. See US Patent No. 5,121,236 (col. 7, ln. 1-9) or U.S. Patent No. 5,223,961 (col. 6, ln. 21-25).

Double Patenting

7. Claims 1-7, 9, 10, 17-24, 26, 27, 30-35, 38-41, 43-48 and 50-55 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 3, 13 and 17 of U.S. Patent No. 5,889,291 as stated in the previous office action.

Applicant's request that a formal response to the Double Patenting rejection be held in abeyance until an indication of allowability being received is acknowledged.

Application/Control Number: 08/818,884

Page 5

Art Unit: 2871

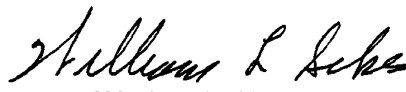
Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Dung Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-0423. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7726.

Any information of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

DN
01/14/2002


William L. Sikes
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 2871